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Concerns and Celebrations

We are pleased to report that **Dick Woodward** was elected on March 22nd to serve as long-term interim pastor at **Midway Congregational UCC**, Midway, GA. Dick is well known to us in the Southeast Conference, having served over the years as pastor of **First Congregational UCC**, Savannah, GA, and some years ago at Midway as well. Dick has also served as chair of the Georgia-South Carolina Association Church and Ministry Committee.

Michelle Taylor, PhD., a member of **Unity UCC**, Montgomery, AL, announced that she has been appointed Professor of Hebrew Scriptures at **Bangor Theological Seminary**, a seminary of the United Church of Christ. She will be living in Portland, ME.



Adrienne Singley-Candido, Administrative Assistant of the Southeast Conference is expecting a baby girl in May. The event was celebrated March 12th with a shower held by the Southeast Conference staff.

Paige Pearson, recently called as pastor of **United Church UCC**, Cookeville, TN, has announced that she and her husband Kyle are expecting their first baby in October.

We were saddened to receive word of the death of the mother of **Sharon Weible**, married to **Lyle Weible**. Sharon and Lyle are members of **Pleasant Hill Community Church UCC**, TN. Lyle serves on the **Conference Board of Directors**.

On March 1st, **Robin Lee Fitch** was installed in her ministry as a therapist in private practice in a service of four way covenant, at **Central Congregational UCC**, Atlanta. The partners in the covenant with her are the Southeast Conference, the Georgia-South-Carolina Association, and Central UCC.

Kathi Martin, member of **Victory Church**, Stone Mountain, GA, has been called to serve on the staff of Victory as a pastoral counselor. Kathi, a member of Victory, was the founding pastor of **GSN Ministries UCC**, and recently served on the staff of First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta.

The **Georgia-South Carolina Association Church and Ministry Committee** took the following actions at its meeting on March 9th:

Received **Chris Glaser's** request to enter the process of discernment leading to privilege of call. Chris has been called to serve as transitional pastor at **Virginia Highland Church (A Baptist and UCC Congregation)**, Atlanta. Ordained by the MCC, he is an author of numerous books and articles.

Interviewed **Shannon Michael Pater**, recently called as senior pastor of **Central Congregational UCC**, Atlanta, and agreed to accept his transfer of ordained ministerial standing from Iowa, pending his joining the church he is serving.

Accepted the transfer of ordained ministerial standing for **D. Houston Hall**, from the Western North Carolina Association of the Southern Conference, UCC. He recently joined **Central Congregational UCC**, Atlanta. Houston, who is an intentional interim minister, and serving a congregation in North Carolina at this time, is moving to Gainesville, GA.

Noted that they have now received the transfer of ordained ministerial standing for **Ron Bonner** from the Minnesota Conference UCC. Ron, a member of **First Congregational UCC**, has been called as a transitional minister of the **Lutheran Church of Atonement (ELCA)** in Atlanta. Ron has previously worked with Fortress Press, and before that on the national staff of the UCC.



Register for a 2009 GA/SC - Ala/Tenn Association Meeting.



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Ted Brelsford, a member of **Central Congregational UCC**, Atlanta, is completing his work toward ordination in the Georgia South Carolina Association, while he serves his call as pastor of **Orchard Park Community Church, Orchard Park, NY**. The Association Church and Ministry Committee has entered an agreement with the Western Association of the New York Conference to complete the preparation for ordination with Ted. The Western Association will accept the work, and arrange an Ecclesiastical Council and ordination.

Dale Owen, Dorothea Lotze-Kola, both members of **Central Congregational UCC**, Atlanta, **Allen Mullinax**, member of **Pilgrimage UCC**, and **Forenza Chatmon** of **Bethany Congregational UCC**, Thomasville, GA, are retiring from the Georgia-South Carolina Association Church and Ministry Committee, having completed their terms. We are deeply grateful for their gifts of leadership.

If there is news that you wish to have shared with others in the Southeast Conference family, please contact Tim at tdowns@secucc.org.

Posted on March, 2009

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